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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A terminal apparatus comprising:  
a reception unit for receiving a data group  
or a program group distributed from a satellite or a  
ground distribution system; and  
an update sequence management unit for  
searching data or a program of the terminal apparatus  
to be updated and data or a program necessary for  
updating the data or the program of the terminal  
apparatus, from the data group or the program group,  
determining an update sequence of the searched program  
or data, and updating the program or data of the  
terminal apparatus in accordance with the determined  
update sequence.
2. A terminal apparatus according to claim 1,  
wherein said update sequence management unit forms an  
installation sequence table in accordance with a  
distribution software list, the distribution software  
list describing therein a software name of a program or  
data of the distributed data group or program group,  
and compatible software necessary for operation of the  
program or data, and the installation sequence table  
describing therein the program or data of the terminal  
apparatus to be updated, software necessary in a chain  
manner for updating the program or data, and the update  
sequence of the software.
3. A terminal apparatus according to claim 1,  
further comprising a software temporary storage unit

~~for storing software before update and a software recovery unit for recovering a state of the software before update of the terminal apparatus in accordance with an operation check result of the software after update.~~

4. A terminal apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising an operation check unit for checking an operation of the software after update and a terminal side transmitting unit for transmitting an operation check result.

5. A terminal apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said reception unit receives information distributed along a zenith direction.

6. A vehicle information terminal for automatically updating application software, map data or system software of the vehicle information terminal, by using the terminal apparatus recited in claim 1.

7. A software update system comprising:  
a station for distributing a data group or a program group for a terminal apparatus by using a broadcasting system or a distribution system; and  
the terminal apparatus for automatically updating a data group or a program group of the terminal apparatus by using the data group or program group distributed from the station,  
wherein said station distributes a distribution software list describing therein a name of a program or data of the program group or data group to

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be distributed, a name of compatible software necessary for operation of a program or data of the program group or data group, a name of a program or data of the program group or data group before update, and a name of a program or data of the program group or data group after update.

8. A software update system according to claim 7, wherein said station includes a reception unit for receiving update contents of software for said terminal apparatus transmitted therefrom, and an update contents management unit for managing the update contents of the software for said terminal apparatus.

9. A software update system according to claim 7, wherein said station further includes a distribution unit for distributing software to said terminal apparatus along a zenith direction.

10. A software update system according to claim 7, wherein map information, navigation software, or system software of a vehicle information terminal is updated.

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